No. 60A
Monthly

JANUARY, 1897

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INDOOR BASE BALL

PUBLISHED BY THE
AMERICAN SPORTS
PUBLISHING CO.
241 BROADWAY.
NEW YORK.

Entered at the New York Post Of

... SPALDING'S ...

Illustrated Catalogue

OF

... SPRING SPORTS SUMMER...

PUBLISHED ABOUT FEBRUARY FIRST.

BASE BALL, LAWN TENNIS,

GOLF, ATHLETIC GOODS,

BICYCLE SUNDRIES,

UNIFORMS and ACCESSORIES

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NEW YORK CHICAGO PHILADELPHIA

GEORGE W. HANCOCK,
President Association of Indoor Base Ball Clubs.
"Father of Indoor Base Ball."

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS

AND

PLAYING RULES

OF THE

ASSOCIATION

OF

INDOOR BASE BALL

CLUBS

Jan. 2

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PUBLISHED BY THE

AMERICAN SPORTS PUBLISHING COMPANY

241 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

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INDOOR BASE BALL.

INTRODUCTORY.

The game of indoor base ball was invented in Chicago in 1887, and came about through a frolic among the members of the Farragut Club, who, in a spirit of fun on Thanksgiving day of that year, threw an ordinary boxing glove around the hall, which was struck at by one of the boys with a broom. Some twenty members had assembled, as usual on holidays, and George W. Hancock, seeing the possibility of a new sport, said in a bantering way: "Say, boys, let's play base ball," and the wrestling mat was hauled around cornerwise and a broom obtained. One of the boxing gloves was used for a ball, and, with the boys in position, they commenced their sport without rule or wisdom, but there was great fun, and when the afternoon had closed Mr. Hancock gathered the members around him and unfolded a plan which had occurred to him as the players were sliding around the hall.

"I believe this affair can be worked into a regular game of base ball which can be played indoors, and if you all come down Saturday night I'll make up some rules and have a ball and bat which will suit the purpose of the sport and do no damage to the surroundings."

It was thus that Mr. Hancock gained the title of "Father of Indoor Base Ball," for he went home and thought out some rules that would equalize the different points of the game and directed Augustus J. White how to make a ball which could be seen at night and fill all the requirements of the game.

And so the sport was evolved.

The first contest, between two nines chosen from among the Farragut members, was one of the funniest performances ever witnessed, and the members and visitors went home loud in their praises of indoor base ball. Owing to the newness of the game and consequent inexperience of those who played, the score oftentimes ran into large figures, the first record being 41 to 40. As the play of the athletes improved, the result was much smaller figures and more on the professional basis of base ball, until now, with numerous clubs and leagues all over the country, the game has reached a scientific standpoint hitherto unsuspected of fulfilment.

It can be played in any hall of size which will permit of sufficient light and room for the diamond and fielding, the composition of the floor being immaterial, as the rubber-soled shoes required to be worn will allow running on even the waxed floor of a dancing hall. About the smallest size for a playing floor is 40 x 60 feet. A larger surface will, of course, allow greater freedom for fielding and running. The spectators are usually placed in the right or left field, on either side of the catcher's territory, and in galleries, according to the construction of the room used for play.

The regulations and rules are made to equalize the difference of size and surroundings from outdoor base ball and have been found to work satisfactorily in making up a sport which is both popular and exhilarating.

At first the sport was confined to a few of the social clubs of Chicago, which had organized a league, but during the past few years great strides have been made toward having the game spread all over the United States. Many of the Chicago clubs made trips to cities in the West and played indoor ball before large crowds of spectators, who had become initiated in the sport, and consequently extremely interested, for it is said of indoor ball that it is the most exciting sport which the winter months give us, for, the space alloted for play usually being somewhat confined, the spectators and players are at no great distance from each other, and the rapid action is of a very exciting nature.

So far the game has been confined to the West, as, having originated in Chicago and being still comparatively a new sport, no efforts were made to introduce it at any remote places. St. Louis, Milwaukee, Denver and cities and towns around Illinois have tried the game, and there are also clubs and leagues in the East and South.

The game has developed some excellent players among the amateurs in Chicago. Several professionals have tried their hand, but find themselves outclassed by the more nimble amateurs, as agility rather than strength enters largely into the sport.

The Official Rules, as herein contained, have been found to work satisfactorily for several years, a few changes having been made for the coming season.

In playing the indoor game, ordinary base ball suits are the proper dress, except that the spiked shoes are done away with and rubber-soled ones used instead. At the knee and hip the trousers should be thickly padded, as contact with the floor at these points is a common occurrence.

A different style of play is noticeable in the successful indoor player from that adopted outdoors. In sliding to bases there must be perfect abandon, and, sliding well around the bag, the arm can be thrust out in passing and the base held. In batting, the ball can be bunted successfully, and, as the first contact with the floor decides its fairness, this feature is one practised by many of the best players. Still, it must not be supposed that long hits cannot be made, for many home runs have been credited on drives that are astonishing in their force. The short stops usually play close to the batter—about ten feet, one on either side of the pitcher, for in the indoor game the right fielder comes into the diamond and takes the position known as "right short."

The umpires' duties are rather difficult, as the quick play and closeness to the players oftentimes actually prevent their seeing the action, but in case one is unable to judge the other may be appealed to.

Remarkable games have already been played. The Farra-

ROBERT L. WELCH,
Secretary-Treasurer Association Indoor Base Ball Clubs.

guts and La Salles have the record for the longest contest—fifteen innings—which the former won, 13 to 11. The closest score yet made was between the Chicago Cyclings and Carletons, which the former won, 1 to 0, the winning run being made in the ninth inning after two men were out.

IMPLEMENTS OF THE GAME.

THE BALL.

The ball will be found to possess properties of a peculiar nature, which, after careful experimenting, have been proved to be best adapted to the sport. It is of a compact substance, 17 inches in circumference, weighs 8¼ ounces, has a white cover, and, while lively, it is so made as to do no damage to objects surrounding the field.

THE BAT.

The limit of size of the bat is 2¾ feet long and 1⅜ inches in diameter at the largest part. The weight is not limited, but the material used is wood possessing great strength, as accidents are liable to occur should the bat break. Bats of different qualities of wood are made so that selections as to style and weight may be made according to individual taste.

THE BASES.

The bases are half filled with sand or other heavy substance, so they will remain in place on the floor, unless grasped by the player in running or sliding to the base. They are made of white canvas, 1½ feet square, and are not attached to the floor, but placed loosely on a marked spot to which it should be returned whenever displaced. The home base is of rubber, one foot each way, and is also placed on a marked square.

SUITS.

Each club should be properly uniformed with natty suits, consisting of shirt, knee pants, stockings, belt, cap and shoes.

The pants should either be padded at the knees and hips, or the regular adjustable knee-pad used to prevent actual contact of these parts of the anatomy with the floor.

SHOES.

All shoes worn must have rubber soles; those with corrugated rubber having been found the best.

MATS.

Where bases lie near a wall, padded mats should be stood up opposite, against which the players may strike when running or sliding.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

NAME AND OBJECTS.

This organization shall be known as the ASSOCIATION OF INDOOR BASE BALL CLUBS.

The objects of the Association are: 1. To perpetuate indoor base ball as a national game of the United States and to surround it with such safeguards as to warrant for the future absolute public confidence in its integrity and methods. 2. To protect and promote the mutual interests of base ball clubs and players.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Any indoor base ball club in the United States may become a member of this Association on written application to the Secretary of the Association, signed by the manager and captain, and accompanied by documents showing that said club is regularly organized and officered (except clubs represented in formation of this organization, who shall be considered charter members).

SEC. 2. Such application shall at once be transmitted by the Secretary to the Board of Directors, who shall immediately investigate and report upon said application.

SEC. 3. The voting upon an application for membership shall be by ballot, a two-thirds vote being requisite for election.

ARTICLE III.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

The membership of any club may be terminated—

(1) By resignation, duly accepted by a two-thirds vote of all the clubs in meeting duly convened.

(2) Allowing open betting or pool selling in any building owned or occupied by it.

(3) Playing any game of ball with a club that has been disqualified.

(4) Offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game of ball, or failing to immediately expel any player who shall be proven guilty of offering, agreeing, conspiring or attempting to lose any game of ball or of being interested in any pool or wager thereon.

(5) Disbandment of its organization or team during the playing season.

(6) Failing or refusing to comply with any lawful requirement of the Board of Directors.

(7) Wilfully violating any provision of the Constitution or the legislation or playing rules in pursuance thereof.

ARTICLE IV.

EXPULSION OF CLUBS.

To carry into effect the provisions of clause 6, Article III., of this Constitution, the facts in any case, covered by such section, must be reported to the Secretary of the Association, who shall at once notify, by mail or telegraph, the party charged with the offence, inquiring whether any dispute exists as to the facts alleged.

In case the facts are disputed, the Board shall, after due notice, try the case under such regulations as they may prescribe, and their finding shall be final and conclusive on all parties, except in case of expulsion, when such finding shall be forwarded to each club, which shall transmit to the Secretary, written ballots: "For Expulsion" or "Against Expulsion;" and if all clubs vote "For Expulsion," the Secretary shall notify all clubs of the forfeiture of membership of the party charged.

ARTICLE V.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

SECTION 1. (*a*) At an annual meeting, the Association shall elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and

Board of Directors, consisting of seven members. The President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be members *ex-officio* of the Board of Directors.

(*b*) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors, appoint all committees, and perform such other duties as pertain to his office, or such as the Association or Board of Directors may assign him.

(*c*) He shall, with the Secretary, sign all necessary documents.

(*d*) He shall have the casting vote, in case of a tie, on all questions at both Association and Board meetings. In absence of the President at any of the meetings of the Association, the Vice-President shall exercise the power and duties of the President at such meetings.

SECTION 2. The Secretary shall be the treasurer of the Association, and as such, shall be the custodian of all funds of the Association, and shall render annually, a report of his accounts. He shall have the custody and care of the seal of the Association and all official records and documents; shall keep a true record of all meetings of the Association and Board of Directors; shall issue all official notices and attend to the necessary correspondence. He shall prepare and furnish such reports as may be called for by the Board, and shall be entitled to such books, stationery, blanks and materials as the actual duties of his office may require.

The Secretary shall keep a record of all infractions of the rules and regulations of the Association that may come under his notice, and shall make a report on the same to the Board at its next meeting.

ARTICLE VI.

DUTIES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to carry out the objects and purposes of the Association.

They shall have the power to adopt such rules and regulations as they may deem necessary for the government of the Association on matters not determined by the By-Laws or

JOHN C. HENDRICKS, JR.,
Vice-President Association Indoor Base Ball Clubs.

special action of the Association, and may enforce a due observance of the same by such action, as in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the welfare of the Association may render necessary or advisable.

They shall have general charge of affairs, fund and property of the Association, and shall have power to expend such sums of money as may be necessary for the proper maintenance of the Association and the discharge of its debts and obligations.

The Board of Directors shall have power to receive and act upon all resignations of members, officers or directors.

SEC. 2. Any officer or director of the Association desiring to resign shall present his resignation to the Board in writing.

SEC. 3. Any vacancy in the Board of Directors, excepting that of President, shall be filled by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall succeed him.

SEC. 4. A majority of the Board of Directors present at any meeting of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VII.

ELECTION.

The officers of this Association shall be elected by ballot, on the first day of November in each year, except when such date falls on Sunday; in which event the election shall be held the succeeding day, and all officers shall hold their offices for one year or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VIII.

MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The President shall call special meetings of the Association upon the written petition or request of ten clubs in good standing or by resolution of the Board of Directors.

SEC. 2. The Secretary shall give one week's notice to clubs of the annual election and meetings by notice in the press or by mail, and at least two days' notice of all special meetings, and shall state in the latter notice the objects for which such special meetings are to be held.

SEC. 3. The majority of clubs present at any meeting of the Association shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 4. The Board of Directors shall hold a regular meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, at 8 P. M., and the Secretary shall call a special meeting of the Board of Directors upon the written request of the President and three members of the Board.

ARTICLE IX.

FEES, DUES, ETC.

SECTION 1. Clubs shall be represented and shall be entitled to two representatives. They shall present a certificate from the President, Manager or Secretary of their club, showing their authority to act, but no club shall have more than one vote.

SEC. 2. The annual dues shall be payable in advance.

SEC. 3. Dues shall be one dollar per annum.

ARTICLE X.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SECTION 1. This Association shall begin on the fourteenth day of December, 1896.

SEC. 2. The following shall be the order of business unless suspended by a three-fourths vote of the club members:

1. Roll call.
2. Reading minutes of last meeting.
3. Report of Board of Directors.
4. Report of committees.
5. Report of officers.
6. Reading of correspondence.
7. Election of new members.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.
10. Adjournment.

SEC. 3. Roberts' Rules of Order shall be authority for the government of proceedings.

ARTICLE XI.

AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. The Constitution of this Association may be altered or amended by a three-fourths vote of all the members present at any regular or special meeting of the Association called for that purpose, provided such alterations or amendments have been submitted in writing and entered on the minutes, together with the name of the member proposing it, at a previous meeting of the Association.

SEC. 2. Any section of this Constitution may be suspended or its provision made non-applicable by unanimous vote at an Association meeting.

HANCOCK'S

INDOOR BASE BALL RULES

AS ADOPTED BY THE

Association of Indoor Base Ball Clubs.

RULE I.

The diamond is laid at one end of the hall, leaving room for the catcher, who always plays close behind the batsman. The bases (except the home plate) are 1½ feet square, made of canvas, half filled with sand or other similar substance. The home plate is of rubber and is one foot square. Each side of the diamond is 27 feet long, and a base is placed in each corner and need not be fastened to the floor. The distance from home to second base, and from first to third base, is 38¼ feet. The pitcher's box is 6 x 3 feet, to be marked with chalk or some apparatus on the floor, the nearest line of said box to be 23 feet from the centre of home base. The batsman's box (one to the left and one to the right of the home base) shall be four feet long and three feet wide, extending one foot in front of and three feet behind a centre line through the home base, with its nearest side distant six inches from the home base, the outlines to be marked on the floor.

RULE II.

THE FOUL LINE.

The foul lines must be drawn in straight lines from the outer corner of the home base, along the outer edge of the first and third bases to the boundaries of the ground, so that the bases shall come within the diamond.

RULE III.

THE BALL.

The ball must be 17 inches in circumference, made of a yielding substance, 8¼ ounces in weight, and covered with a white skin; should it become ripped or torn during a game, a new one must be substituted, The Spalding Red Seam Ball was adopted as the official ball of this Association, and must be stamped with the seal of the Association.

RULE IV.

THE BAT.

The bat must be 2¾ feet long and not larger than 1⅜ inches in diameter in the largest part, and may have a rubber tip on the handle to prevent slipping. It must be made otherwise of wood, except that a metal rod not larger in diameter than one-eighth of an inch, may be passed through the centre the entire length of the bat. The handle may be wound with string or tape.

RULE V.

THE PLAYERS.

Eight or nine players must constitute a side. The players' positions shall be such as shall be assigned them by their captain, except that the pitcher must take his position within the pitcher's lines. When in position on the field, all players will be designated as "fielders" in these rules.

RULE VI.

THE PITCHER.

The pitcher shall take his position facing the batsman, both feet together on the ground, wholly within the box. He shall not make more than one step in the act of delivering the ball. He shall hold the ball, before the delivery, fairly in front of his body and in sight of the umpire.

(*a*) Only straight-armed pitching, in which the arm and hand swing parallel with the body, will be allowed, and the ball is not to be curved, the so-called upshoot being considered illegal.

ENGLEWOOD WHEELMEN INDOOR BASE BALL TEAM.

Hodges Rexstrew (Captain) Hales

Lang Kruse Welch, Mgr. Emerson Hickok

Barsaloux Nadall

(*b*) By special agreement between opposing captains this rule may be changed so as to make the pitcher deliver the ball with his rear foot on the back line of the box when in the act of delivering the ball—only one step to be taken, but he shall not be restricted as to curving the ball, though the arm must still be swung parallel with the body.

RULE VII.

THE GAME.

A game shall consist of nine innings to each contesting club, except that, if the side first at bat scores less runs in nine innings than the other side has scored in eight innings, the game shall then terminate; or, if the side last at bat in the ninth inning scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game shall terminate.

RULE VIII.

A TIE GAME.

If the score be a tie at the end of nine innings to each side, play shall only be continued until the side first at bat shall have scored one or more runs than the other side in an equal number of innings, or until the other side shall score one or more runs than the side first at bat.

RULE IX.

A FORFEITED GAME.

A forfeited game shall be declared by the umpire in favor of the club not in fault, at the request of such club, in the following cases:

(*a*) If the nine of a club fail to appear upon the field, or being upon the field fails to begin the game within one minute after the umpire has called "play" at the hour appointed for the beginning of the game, unless such delay in appearing or in commencing the game be unavoidable.

(*b*) If, after the game has begun, one side refuses or fails to continue playing, unless such game has been suspended or terminated by the umpire.

RULE X.

SUBSTITUTES.

The base runner shall not have a substitute run for him, except by the consent of the captains of the contesting teams.

RULE XI.

CHOICE OF INNINGS.

The choice of innings shall be decided by flipping a coin.

RULE XII.

GOOD AND BAD BALLS.

A ball legally delivered by the pitcher which passes over any part of the home base not lower than the batsman's knee nor higher than his shoulder is a good ball. Otherwise it is a bad ball.

RULE XIII.

BALKS.

A motion to deliver the ball by the pitcher without his doing so, or holding the ball so long as to unnecessarily delay the game, constitutes a balk.

RULE XIV.

ILLEGAL BALLS.

A ball delivered by the pitcher with any part of his person out of the box, or with a curve (when game is played under clause "a," Rule VI.) is an illegal pitch and entitles any base-runner and the batsman to a base. If game is played under clause "b," Rule VI., an illegal pitch shall be declared if the pitcher does not have his rear foot on the back line of the box, or if he takes more than one step before delivering the ball.

RULE XV.

DEAD BALLS.

Any pitched ball striking the batter is a dead ball, but does not entitle him to a base. If it should be the third strike the batter is out, and no base can be run on that ball.

RULE XVI.

NOT IN PLAY.

In case of a foul strike, foul hit ball not legally caught out, dead ball, or base runner put out for being struck by a fair hit ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is held by the pitcher standing in his box.

RULE XVII.

BLOCK BALLS.

A block is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handled by any person not engaged in the game.

(*a*) Whenever a block occurs, base runners may run the bases without being put out, until the ball has been returned to and held by the pitcher standing in his box.

(*b*) In the case of a block, if a person not engaged in the game should retain possession of the ball, or throw or kick it beyond the reach of the fielders, the umpire shall call "time," and require each base-runner to stop at the last base touched by him until the ball be returned to the pitcher standing in his box.

(*c*) Special ground rules may be made allowing a certain number of bases on a fair hit into the crowd, in which case the above sections are void.

RULE XVIII.

THE SCORING OF RUNS.

One run shall be scored every time a base-runner, after having legally touched the first three bases, shall touch the home base before three men are put out. If the third man is forced out, or is put out before reaching first base, a run shall not be scored.

RULE XIX.

FAIR AND FOUL BALLS.

(*a*) A batted ball which strikes inside or on the foul line is fair, the first point of contact with the floor, object or fielder deciding, regardless of where it afterwards rolls.

(*b*) A batted ball first striking outside the foul line shall be foul.

RULE XX.

STRIKES.

(*a*) A strike is a ball struck at by the batsman without its touching his bat ; or,

(*b*) A good ball, legally delivered by the pitcher, but not struck at by the batsman.

RULE XXI.

FOUL STRIKES.

A foul strike is a ball batted by the batsman when any part of his person is upon ground outside the lines of the batsman's position.

RULE XXII.

THE BATSMAN IS OUT.

(*a*) The batsman is out, if he bats out of his turn and makes a fair hit before the error is discovered.

(*b*) If he fails to take his position within one minute after the umpire has called for the batsman.

(*c*) If he makes a foul hit or foul tip and the ball be held by a fielder before touching the ground or any wall or fixture.

(*d*) If he makes a foul strike.

(*e*) If he attempts to hinder the catcher from fielding the ball, evidently without effort to make a fair hit.

(*f*) If, while the first base be occupied by the base-runner, he has three strikes, except when two men are already out.

RULE XXIII.

BASE RUNNING.

The batsman becomes a base-runner—

(*a*) Instantly after he makes a fair hit.

(*b*) Instantly after four balls have been called by the umpire.

(*c*) Instantly after three strikes.

(*d*) Instantly after the umpire declares an illegal delivery of a ball by the pitcher.

RULE XXIV.

BASES TO BE TOUCHED.

The base runner must touch each base in regular order, viz.:

First, second, third and home base; but when obliged to return may go directly to the base which he legally holds.

RULE XXV.

ENTITLED TO BASES.

The base-runner shall be entitled, without being put out, to take one base in the following cases:

(*a*) If, while he was batsman, the umpire called four balls.

(*b*) If the umpire awards a succeeding batsman a base on four balls or in case of an illegal delivery, and the base-runner is thereby forced to vacate the base held by him.

(*c*) If the umpire calls a "balk" or "illegal pitch."

(*d*) If a ball delivered by the pitcher pass the catcher or is fumbled, only one base may be taken, provided the runner make it, unless it is a third strike or fourth ball, when the runner is entitled to all he can get.

(*e*) If the pitcher does not give him time to return to his base.

(*f*) If, upon a fair hit, the ball strikes the person or clothing of the umpire on fair grounds.

(*g*) If he be prevented from making a base by the obstruction of an adversary.

(*h*) If, when he was batsman, the pitcher delivered an "illegal ball."

RULE XXVI.

WHEN TO START.

(*a*) A base-runner must not leave his base when the pitcher holds the ball standing in his box.

(*b*) A base-runner must not leave his base on a pitched ball not struck, until after it has reached or passed the catcher, on penalty of being called back.

(*c*) A base-runner must be on his base when the pitcher is ready to deliver the ball to the batsman.

[Starting too soon does not exempt a base runner from being put out on that particular play. The umpire must not make a decision in regard to a premature start until the base runner has reached the next base or is put out.]

CHAMPION MARQUETTES.

Raffen Hendricks F. Gallagher Palmer Scheneck Hicks J. Gallagher
Stein Keary M. Todd Hollis
Barsaloux C. Todd Osborne

RULE XXVII.

RETURNING TO BASES.

The base-runner shall return to his base, and shall be entitled to so return without being put out—

(*a*) If the umpire declares a foul hit which is not legally caught by a fielder.

(*b*) If the umpire declares a foul strike.

(*c*) If the umpire declares a dead ball.

(*d*) If the person or clothing of the umpire is struck by a ball thrown by the catcher to intercept a base-runner.

(*e*) If he is called back by the umpire for starting too soon.

RULE XXVIII.

A BASE-RUNNER IS OUT.

(*a*) If, having made a fair hit, while batsman, such fair hit ball be held by a fielder before touching the ground, wall or any fixture.

(*b*) If he intentionally kicks or interferes with a ball he has just batted.

[If a ball he has just batted rebounds and hits him he shall not be declared out on that account.]

(*c*) If the third strike be caught before touching the ground or any object.

(*d*) If, after three strikes or a fair hit, he be touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder before such base-runner touches first base.

(*e*) If. after three strikes or a fair hit, the ball be securely held by a fielder while touching first base with any part of his person, before such base-runner touches first base.

(*f*) If, in running from first to second base, from second to third base, or from third to home base, he runs more than three feet from a direct line between such bases to avoid being touched by a ball in the hands of a fielder; but in case a fielder be occupying a base-runner's proper path, attempting to field a batted ball, then the base-runner shall run out of the path and shall not be declared out for so doing.

(*g*) If he fails to avoid a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or if he in any way obstructs a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball.

(*h*) If, at any time, while the ball is in play, he be touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder, unless some part of his person is touching a base he is entitled to occupy; provided, the ball be held by the fielder after touching him; but—exception as to first base—in running to first base, he may overrun said base without being put out for being off said base, after first touching it, provided he returns at once and retouches the base, after which he may be put out as at any other base. If, in overrunning first base, he also attempts to run to second base, he shall forfeit such exemption from being put out.

(*i*) If, when a fair or foul fly is legally caught, such ball is legally held by a fielder on the base occupied by the base-runner when such ball was struck, or the base-runner be touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder, before he retouches said base after such fair or foul hit ball was so caught.

(*j*) If a fair hit ball strikes him before touching a fielder, and in such case no base shall be run unless forced by the batsman becoming a base-runner, and no run shall be scored.

(*k*) If, when running to a base, he fail to touch the intervening base or bases in regular order, he may be put out at the base he fails to touch by a fielder holding the ball on said base, in the same manner as in running to first base.

RULE XXIX.

TURN EITHER WAY.

In returning to first base, after overrunning, the base-runner may turn either way.

RULE XXX.

SAFELY ON A BASE.

A base-runner is safely on a base if he slides with the bag and clings to it; or, if any part of his person is touching the spot where the bag should be; or, he is safe if he has touched the home base or where the base should be.

[If, in sliding with the bag at any base, he should stop, he must then return with the bag to the proper spot before starting for another base, the same as in overrunning first base.]

RULE XXXI.

COACHING RULES.

Two coachers are restricted in coaching to the base-runners only, and are not allowed to address any remarks, except to the base-runners, and then only in words of necessary direction. They must not stand within three feet of a base or base line. To enforce the above, the captain of the opposite side may call the attention of the umpire to the offence, and upon a repetition of the same, the player shall be debarred from further coaching during the game.

RULE XXXII.

SUITABLE SHOES.

Only shoes with rubber soles or other soft material shall be used.

RULE XXXIII.

PITCHER MUST WAIT.

When a base-runner is legally entitled to return to a base, the pitcher must wait a reasonable time for him to reach the base, on penalty of giving the base-runner another base for violation.

RULE XXXIV.

UMPIRES.

(*a*) The umpires are masters of the field from the commencement to the termination of the game, and are entitled to the respect of the spectators, and any person offering any insult or injury to either of them must be promptly ejected from the room by those in charge.

(*b*) The umpires must compel the players to observe the provisions of all the playing rules, and are hereby invested with authority to order any player to do or omit to do any act as they may deem necessary to give force and effect to any and all of such provisions.

(*c*) There shall be two umpires, who shall take suitable positions on the field for observing the plays which they are to judge.

(*d*) No. 1 shall decide upon and call all balls, strikes, blocks, dead balls, balks, illegal deliveries, fair and foul hits (excepting ground hits), foul strikes, all questions arising at home plate, and shall call play or time, and shall take a position behind the catcher.

(*e*) No. 2 shall judge all base plays excepting those at home plate and decide the fairness of ground hits, and shall take a position about ten feet back of the base line, midway between home and first or home and third bases, where he can best view the play.

(*f*) The umpires shall be sole judges of the play, and discussion will only be allowed on correct interpretation of the rules and not on any optional decision. All such discussions are restricted to the two captains.

(*g*) The two umpires shall change positions at the end of every full inning. Umpires shall not be chosen from the two clubs contesting.

(*h*) In case an umpire for some reason cannot decide a play, he may refer to his colleague. The umpires shall ask the captain of the home team whether there are any special ground rules to be enforced, and if there are, they shall see that they are duly enforced, provided they do not conflict with any of these rules.

(*i*) The umpires must keep the contesting nines playing constantly from the commencement of the game to its termination, allowing such delays only as are rendered unavoidable by accident or injury. The umpires must, until the completion of the game, require the players of each side to promptly take their positions in the field as soon as the third man is put out, and must require the first batter of the opposite side to be in his position at the bat as soon as the fielders are in their places.

RULE XXXV.

CALLING "PLAY" AND "TIME."

(*a*) The umpire designated as No. 1 must call "play"

promptly at the hour designated by the home club, and on the call of "play" the game must immediately begin. When he calls "time," play must be suspended until he calls "play" again, and during the interim no player shall be put out, base be run or run be scored. The umpire shall suspend play only for an accident to himself or a player (but in case of accident to a fielder "time" shall not be called until the ball be returned to and held by the pitcher standing in his box).

(*b*) "Time" must not be called for trivial causes. The practice of players suspending the game to discuss or contest a decision with either umpire is a gross violation of the rules and the umpire must not allow it.

(*c*) If a player wilfully disobeys the cautions of the umpires in regard to violations of the rules he may, at the discretion of the umpires, be ordered out of the game and his place be filled, if such decision reduce the side to less than eight players.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

"Play" is the order of the umpire to begin the game or to resume play after its suspension.

"Time" is the order of the umpire to suspend play. Such suspension must not extend beyond the day of the game.

"Game" is the announcement by the umpire that the game is terminated.

An "inning" is a term at the bat of the players representing a club in a game, and is completed when three of such players have been put out, as provided in these rules.

A "time at bat" is the term at bat of a batsman. It begins when he takes his position, and continues until he is put out or becomes a base-runner.

A "foul tip" is included in a "foul hit."

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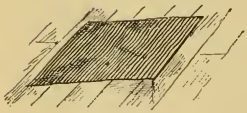

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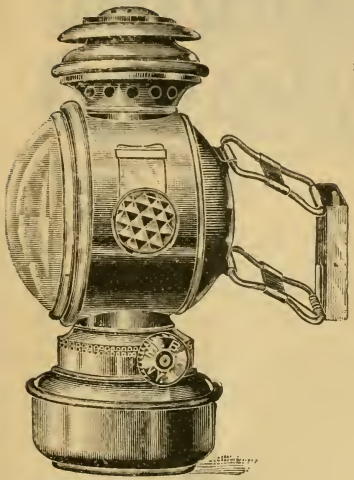

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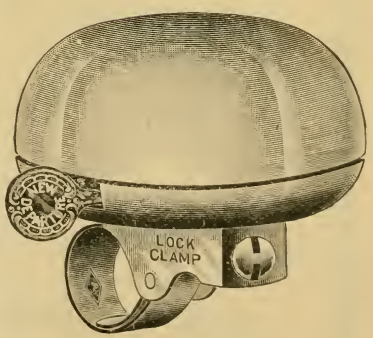

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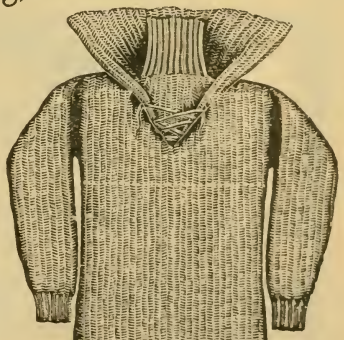

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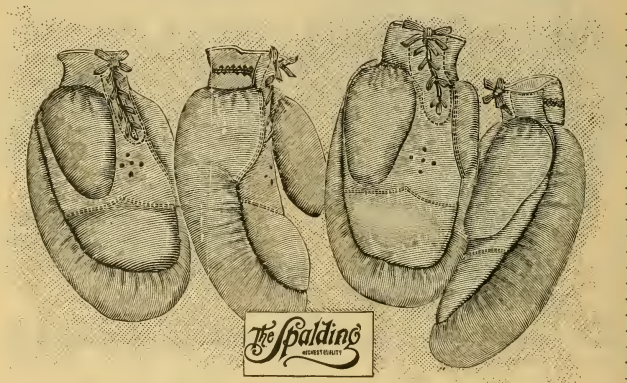

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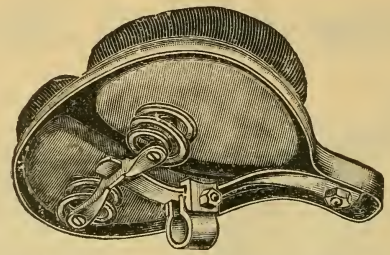

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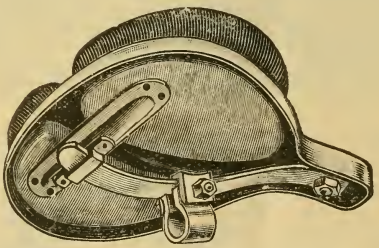

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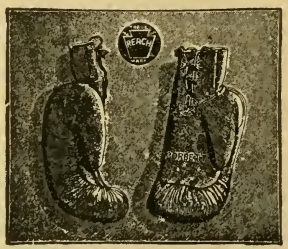

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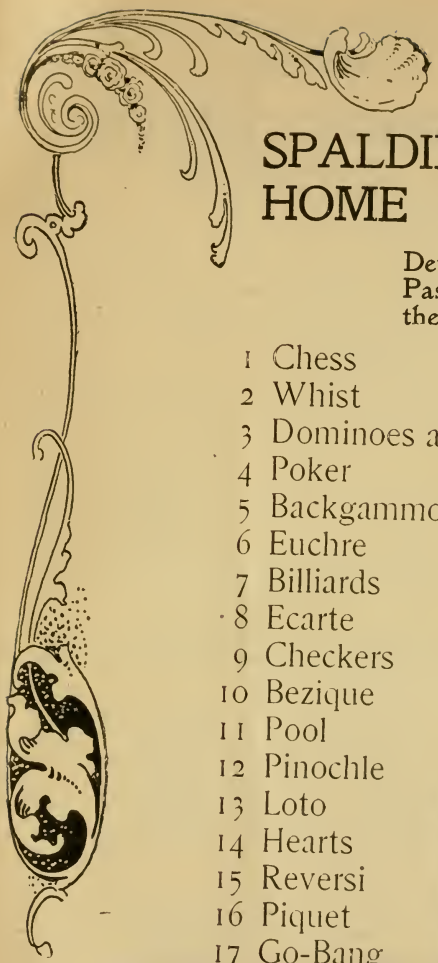

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